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**TO: Examiner P. Marcantoni
Group Art Unit: 1755**

Fax No.: 703-872-9311

From: James G. Stewart

Date: December 10, 2001

**Re: Serial No. 09/481,988
Filed: January 11, 2000
Our Docket No.: 1941-70**

Number of Pages (including this page): 21

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GROUP 1700**

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1755

PATENT APPLICATION
Do. No. 1941-70

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 25, 2001 TO GROUP ART UNIT 1755 (EXAMINER P. MARCANTONI) IS BEING FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED TO THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (FACSIMILE NO. (703) 872-9311) (AS DIRECTED) ON (DECEMBER 10, 2001). (TOTAL PAGES TRANSMITTED IS 20 INCLUDING THIS ONE).

JUDY WIGMORE
(SENDER'S PRINTED NAME)

Judy Wigmore
(SIGNATURE)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Paul J. BRUINSMA; Suresh BASKARAN;
Jagannadha R. BONTA and Jun LIU

Serial No. 09/481,988

Examiner: P. Marcantoni

Filed: January 11, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1755

For: MESOPOROUS-SILICA FILMS, FIBERS, AND POWDERS BY EVAPORATION

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated October 25, 2001, enclosed is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
For:	Number After Amendment	Previous Number	Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims	66	-66*	0	x \$9 =	\$0
Independent Claims	14	-14**	0	x \$40 =	\$0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0

Transmittal

1

MJM Do. No. 1941-70

☒ Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to deposit account number 13-1703.



20575

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, PC

James G. Stewart
Reg. No. 32,496

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Responsive to the final Office Action, dated October 25/2001, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. A method of making mesoporous silica materials, comprising the steps of
 - (a) combining a silica precursor with an aqueous solvent, an acid and a surfactant having an ammonium cation into a silica precursor solution,
 - (b) templating the silica precursor with the surfactant and obtaining the mesoporous material from the templated silica precursor,
 - (c) forming said silica precursor solution into a preform; and
 - (d) rapidly evaporating said aqueous solvent from said preform for obtaining the mesoporous material, wherein the improvement comprises:
 - (i) providing said aqueous solvent in an amount resulting in complete hydrolysis and providing said acid in an amount maintaining a hydrolyzed precursor and avoiding gelation or precipitation; and

RESPONSE TO FINAL
OFFICE ACTION

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DO. NO. 1941-70